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The fourth “Design Biennial Boston” opens with four architectural installations on the Rose Kennedy Greenway and a display at BSA Space.

Boston - July 16, 2015 - Today Mayor Martin J. Walsh announced the opening of the fourth Design Biennial Boston, a program that foregrounds emerging architects, landscape architects, and designers who have created inspiring and innovative practices in Massachusetts. Following an open call for entries, four firms—Cristina Parreño Architecture, GLD, Landing Studio, and MASS Design Group—were selected in March by a jury of distinguished professionals and academics. In the months since, the firms have been preparing installations that are on view on the Rose Kennedy Greenway through September 25. They join nineteen previous winners of the Biennial, a group that represents Boston’s deeply creative pool of design talent.

The 2015 Biennial is sponsored by the Mayor’s Office of New Urban Mechanics, the Boston Art Commission, pinkcomma gallery, BSA Space, and the Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy. A related introductory exhibition curated by pinkcomma is located at BSA Space (290 Congress Street).

The four site-specific installations include a seventeen-foot-high landmark that performs as an urban periscope constructed of 350 custom-fabricated glass blocks, a series of chambers enclosed by resin-infused fiberglass that forms a surprising collective interior space, a field of eighteen reconstituted wharf pilings recycled from a shipyard in Boston Harbor, and a lattice-like structure composed of more than one thousand wood and metal components to create an intimate gathering space.

“Boston has such a vibrant talent pool of designers, and these four installations remind us of how creative those designers can be when given opportunities”, said Mayor Walsh. “I want Boston to be a municipal arts leader, and putting this type of exciting and thoughtful work into the public realm is what gets us closer to that goal”.

“Boston is home to a healthy, vibrant design community,” remarked Joyce Linehan, Chief of Policy at the City of Boston. “We have world-renowned architects, artists, and innovators. We have outstanding schools that specialize in design. We have all the tools we need to meet the Mayor’s challenge to think big about our built environment as we embark on our first citywide plan in fifty years. The emerging designers represented here exemplify the spirit of imagination that will inform our process.”

“This fourth installment of the Biennial has moved outdoors to put the work of emerging designers on display in an exciting and very public way”, explained Chris Grimley of pinkcomma and over,under, one of the exhibition’s curators. “At a time when the mayor has brought forth urgent questions about the quality of buildings being produced in the city, the

Biennial participants demonstrate how Boston's new design talent can be drawn on for its innovative thinking and ability to respond to the challenges we will face in the future".

The previous design work of each team is presented at BSA Space as are the ideas behind their installations. The public is invited to tour the exhibition and then wander through the Greenway, where they will find four installations meant to spark their imaginations by defining spaces, shaping views, and evoking meanings related to the site's past. The works are located on two blocks along Atlantic Avenue, the first with three installations between Congress and Pearl Streets, the second with one installation nearest to High Street. The sites are immediately adjacent to the 250-foot-high suspended art piece, *As If It Were Already Here*, by Janet Echelman.

"We are excited to host the 2015 Biennial on the Greenway", said Lucas Cowan, curator of public art for the Greenway Conservancy. "With the Biennial installations and Janet Echelman's piece so close to one another, the Greenway has become home to a wonderful confluence of architecture and public art, showcasing innovative thinkers who make Greater Boston their home".

"This year's Design Biennial Boston has provided four outstanding emerging designers with an invaluable chance to engage the wider public in their imaginative work", commented juror Tim Love AIA, 2015 president of the BSA and a Biennial participant in 2008. "BSA Space is pleased to host the introductory exhibition and support the Biennial. We believe that Boston's future is in good hands if these brilliant minds are given more opportunities to shape our city".

The jury for the 2015 Biennial included curators Chris Grimley, Michael Kubo, and Mark Pasnik AIA (pinkcomma gallery) along with Lucas Cowan (Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy), Eden Dutcher (GroundView), Michael Evans (Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics), Mary Fichtner (BSA Space), Karin Goodfellow (Boston Art Commission), Dan Hisel (Dan Hisel Architect/Wentworth Institute), Eric Höweler AIA (Höweler + Yoon/Harvard University), Tim Love AIA (Utile/Northeastern University/2015 BSA President), and Ana Mijlački (Project_/MIT).

The public installations and introductory exhibition will be on view from July 16 through September 25.

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About the Design Biennial Boston

The Biennial showcases the most significant leaders among early-career, independent design talent in Massachusetts through a juried exhibition and site-specific, outdoor installation. The mission is to create a more vibrant design community that will contribute to Boston's evolving culture, shape, and economic health. The first iteration of the Biennial—known as the Young Architects Boston Group—was held at pinkcomma gallery in 2008. In 2010, the event was renamed the Design Biennial Boston, and in 2012/13 it moved to BSA

Space. Past participants include nineteen designers: Ground, Höweler + Yoon Architecture, LinOldhamOffice, Merge Architects, MOS, over,under, SsD, Studio Luz Architects, UNI, and Utile in 2008; C&MP, Dan Hisel Architect, Schneider Studio, Touloukian Touloukian, and William O'Brien Jr. in 2010; and GroundView, Kiel Moe, Matter Design, Project_ in 2012/13. www.designbiennialboston.com

About the Boston Art Commission publicartboston.com

First assembled in 1890, the Boston Art Commission advocates for the creation of innovative and transformative art and promotes its accessibility to enrich the lives of Boston's diverse citizens and visitors. The Art Commission advises, supports, and consults with artists and communities, City departments, and others. It commissions, approves, and conserves the City of Boston's collection of art and historical artifacts.

About BSA Space architects.org/bsaspace

BSA Space (290 Congress Street, Boston)—Boston's leading cultural institution on architecture and design—is home to the Boston Society of Architects and BSA Foundation. Admission is free and open to the public.

About the Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics newurbanmechanics.org

The Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics in Boston serves as the City's innovation incubator, building partnerships between internal agencies and outside entrepreneurs to pilot projects that address resident needs. The Mechanics strive to engage the community in developing projects that will reshape city government and improve the services it provides.

About pinkcomma gallery pinkcomma.com

Founded in 2007, pinkcomma gallery strives to make design more pivotal in the city's political and cultural discourses—and across disciplines of architecture, landscape, graphics, urbanism, interiors, and industrial design. The gallery's curators have produced more than thirty exhibitions and are publishing with Monacelli Press the first in-depth study of Boston's concrete modernism, titled *Heroic: Concrete Architecture and the New Boston*.

About the Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy rosekennedygreenway.org

The Conservancy is the designated steward of the Rose Kennedy Greenway, a mile-and-a-half of contemporary parks in the heart of Boston that connect people and the city with beauty and fun. The non-profit Conservancy maintains, programs, and improves the Greenway on behalf of the public and in partnership with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.